



## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Dear Repair Shop Owner/Technician:

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources would like to thank all of the businesses, inspector/mechanics, and repair technicians who took the time to respond to the June 2006 Greater St. Louis Area Repair Industry Survey. The department received 270 responses from approximately 1,150 surveys mailed, a 23 percent response rate.

The survey indicated that 82 percent of the respondents want to be licensed to perform emissions inspections, and an additional 13 percent of the respondents might be interested in being licensed to perform emissions inspections. The survey indicated that there was not a clear consensus on how the inspection equipment should be provided. Forty-six percent of the respondents indicated that they would like to buy, rent or lease the emissions inspection equipment, while 45 percent of the respondents indicated that they would like the state or the contractor to provide the emissions inspection equipment.

Now that the governor has signed Senate Bill 583, the department is working with the Missouri State Highway Patrol to draft a Request for Proposals (RFP) for release later this year. This RFP will request bids for one company to be the sole source provider of both safety and emissions inspection software and test equipment for the inspection and maintenance (I/M) program in the St. Louis ozone nonattainment area that will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2007.

Here are some of the details about the next I/M program. 1996 and newer gasoline-powered vehicles and 1997 and newer diesel-powered vehicles under 8,501 pounds Gross Vehicle Weight Rating registered within Franklin, Jefferson, St. Charles, and St. Louis counties and the City of St. Louis will be subject to On-board Diagnostic (OBD) emissions testing. There will not be any transient or idle tailpipe emissions testing for 1995 and older model year vehicles. The testing frequency will remain the same, with all odd model year vehicles tested during odd numbered years and all even model year vehicles tested during even number years. The emissions inspection fee will remain a maximum of \$24 per inspection.

Vehicles within the St. Louis nonattainment area will continue to be subject to a safety inspection. The safety inspection will continue to include a visual inspection for the presence of emissions control devices and leaking fuel and will add a gas cap pressure test for 1981 and newer model year vehicles. All inspection stations will be required to submit safety inspection data electronically to a database maintained by the state's contractor. The safety inspection fee will remain a maximum of \$12 per inspection.



All facilities that wish to participate in the next decentralized I/M program will have the option to be licensed to conduct either safety inspections, emissions inspections, or safety and emissions inspections in either a test only or test and repair capacity. Businesses will be able to apply for both the safety and emissions testing licenses from one state agency, which the department anticipates will be the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

All licensed inspection facilities open to the public will be required to use equipment from the state's selected contractor. The equipment will be able to record safety and/or emissions test results and transmit inspection results to the state's database on a real-time basis. Equipment will be made available by the contractor for either purchase, lease, or on a per-test fee basis.

The Department of Natural Resources will continue to certify Missouri Recognized Repair Technicians (MRRTs). MRRTs will need current National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Certificates in A6-Electrical Systems, A8-Engine Performance, and L1-Advanced Engine Performance Specialist to maintain their MRRT status. For more information about ASE certification, please visit [www.asecert.org](http://www.asecert.org) or call 1-888-ASE-TEST. The department encourages all technicians to become an MRRT so that your labor costs can be applied toward a waiver.

The emissions waiver-spending minimum will be \$450 for all model years. Waivers will be granted by the state or the contractor after repair receipts and the vehicle are reviewed for repair effectiveness. Ineffective or improper repairs will not be accepted for the purposes of granting a waiver.

To track the process on the redesign of the I/M program or to view the results of the Repair Industry Survey conducted by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, please visit the I/M Redesign Website at: [www.dnr.mo.gov/env/apcp/gcap/Imredesign.htm](http://www.dnr.mo.gov/env/apcp/gcap/Imredesign.htm). If you have questions or comments about the emissions redesign process, please contact me at P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102 or by phone at (573) 751-4817. If you have questions or comments about the safety inspection program, please contact Paul Rehbein, Chief MVI Inspector and Emissions Coordinator, at P.O. Box 568, Jefferson City, MO 65102 or by phone at (573) 526-6132.

Sincerely,

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAM

*Original signed by Haskins Hobson*

W. Haskins Hobson, Jr., P.E.  
I/M Team Coordinator

WHH:lm